

Docket No. 88-127

Supreme Court, U.S. EILED AUG 18 1988

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In the Supreme Court of the United States

October Term, 1987

NORFOLK AND WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY,
Petitioner.

V

ROBERT T. GOODE, JR.,

Respondent.

BRIEF IN OPPOSITION TO
PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTICRARI
TO THE SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

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OUESTIONS PRESENTED

I. Whether a railroad worker who was injured while repairing railroad equipment used for braking and stopping hopper cars and who does not perform traditional longshoring activities, is a "maritime employee" under the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act?

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SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER TERM, 1987

No. 88-127

NORFOLK AND WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY,
Petitioner,

V.

ROBERT T. GOODE, JR.,

Respondent.

BRIEF IN OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

Respondent, Robert T. Goode, Jr., respectfully prays the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari of Norfolk & Western Railway Company be denied.

STATUTES INVOLVED

This case requires interpretation of provisions of the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act

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Respondent, Dobert T. Cools, Jr., 200, Jr., 20

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("LHWCA"), 33 U.S.C. Section 902(3), and also involves the Federal Employer's Liability Act ("FELA"), 45 U.S.C. Sections 51-60. The relevant portions of these Acts are reprinted in the Appendix to the Petition.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The Respondent Robert T. Goode, Jr. ("Goode") filed suit under the Federal Employers Liability Act ("FELA") against the Petitioner Norfolk & Western Railway Company ("Railroad") in the Circuit Court for the City of Norfolk, for injuries sustained on February 11, 1985, while performing maintenance on a retarder at the Railroad's Lamberts Point Yard in Norfolk, Virginia. The injury resulted in the loss of an index finger and permanent damage to another finger as

property, 37 Utath, Saction 902(3), cand also Javelyni's also Lavelyni's the Control of Control of

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well as to the hand. Goode was unable to work in his occupation as a machinist from the date of the accident to August 1, 1985.

The Railroad moved to dismiss the suit contending that the Longshoremen's Harbor Workers' Compensation Act ("LHWCA") was Goode's exclusive remedy for his injuries. On November 13, 1986, Judge Charles R. Waters, II, of the Circuit Court of the City of Norfolk issued a letter opinion dismissing the suit holding that the LHWCA provided Goode's exclusive remedy. An Order to this effect was entered by the Court on December 17, 1986. Copies of Judge Water's letter and the Order are reprinted in the Appendix to the Petition.

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The Supreme Court of Virginia granted an appeal and on April 22, 1988 issued a decree reversing the decision of the Circuit Court and remanding the case for a trial on the FELA claim. The Supreme Court of Virginia did not render an opinion in this action but simply cited in the decree its opinion in Schwalb v. Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Co., 235 Va. 27, 365 S.E.2d 742 (1988), decided on March 4, 1988. A copy of the Decree of April 22, 1988 is reprinted in the Appendix to the Petition. The Railroad is seeking review in this Court of the decision of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

The facts relevant to the issue are as follows:

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FACTUAL SUMMARY

Power Department of the Railroad as a machinist. App. at 13A. Machinists are assigned jobs based solely on seniority by hiring date. App. at 25A, 32A. Machinists may be assigned work in the geographic range from Norfolk, Virginia to Crewe, Virginia, approximately 125 miles from Norfolk. App. at 25A-26A, 32A-33A.

One of the sites where a machinist may be assigned to work in Norfolk, Virginia, is the Lamberts Point Yard. The Lamberts Point Yard is a coal loading terminal where coal mined in Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky is brought by train for transfer to ships. Goode worked at the Lamberts Point Yard. At the Lamberts Point Yard in Norfolk, a

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machinist may be assigned to work at the 38th Street car shops, the Motive Power Building or the Roundhouse. App. at 26A, 33A. At the Lamberts Point Yard a machinist can be assigned a number of tasks, including: repairing railroad cars; rerailing derailed railroad cars; repairing and maintaining pushers (small electronic locomotives) and the Barney (a devise that pushes railroad cars up an incline); repairing and maintaining retarders; and releasing hand brakes on railroad cars. App. at 26A, 33A. Some of the job assignments may require the machinist to work on pier machinery, both over the water and in the shop. At least half of the work performed by Goode was in areas other than maintenance and repair of pier machinery. App. at 6A, 15A.

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On February 11, 1985, Goode was assigned the duty of performing maintenance on an air cylinder on a retarder at the Lamberts Point Yard. App. at 18A. While performing the maintenance Goode was injured. retarder is a device used to stop or slow the movement of railroad cars. App. at 27A, 34A. Retarders are used throughout the Railroad's system and are common to all railroads. App. at 27A, 34A, 48A-49A. Retarders are found at other coal unloading facilities which have no connection with loading ships, such as steel mills and power plants.

The retarder Goode was assigned to repair is located on land approximately six hundred feet from the coal loading piers at the Lamberts Point Yard in an apparatus called the southside dumper.

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App. at 18A. Once a railroad car entering the dumper has stopped, it is seized by mechanical arms, turned upsidedown and the coal is dumped from the car to a conveyor belt. Once the car is dumped, it moves by gravity to a "kickback" incline, then by gravity it is free-rolled to an empty return yard for its trip back to the coal fields.

Once coal is dumped from the railroad cars, it is carried by a conveyor belt system from the southside dumper to the Belt Change House. In the Belt Change House the coal is transferred to another conveyor belt system that begins the ship loading process by carrying coal to large chutes on the pier. App. at 39A-49A.

As a railroad machinist, Goode is eligible for retirement benefits under

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and to receive Railroad Retirement Board unemployment benefits when furloughed or dismissed due to illness or a disabling non-work related injury. The employment contract under which Goode works is negotiated under the Federal Railway Labor Act and his right to a hearing and to appeal any disciplinary action imposed by the Railroad is mandated by that Act. App. at 28A-29A, 35A-36A.

SUMMARY ARGUMENT

The decision of the Supreme Court of Virginia that Robert Goode is not a maritime employee under the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act is consistent with the decisions of this Court. A railroad worker is not performing traditional

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longshoring work when repairing railroad retarder system, and the worker is not a "maritime employee" under the Act. See Herb's Welding, Inc. v. Gray, 470 U.S. 414 (1985); Northeast Marine Terminal Co. v. Caputo, 432 U.S. 249 (1977). Such a railroad worker is covered by the Federal Employer's Liability Act for injuries received while on-duty. Conti v. Norfolk & Western Ry. Co., 566 F.2d 890 (4th Cir. 1977). There is no conflict between the decision of the Virginia Supreme Court in this case and the decisions of this Court or the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and, consequently, review of the decision of the Supreme Court of Virginia is not necessary.

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ARGUMENT

A RAILROAD WORKER MAINTAINING RAILROAD EQUIPMENT AND NOT PERFORMING TRADITIONAL LONGSHORING WORK IS NOT A "MARITIME EMPLOYEE" UNDER THE LHWCA.

The sole issue considered by the Supreme Court of Virginia, and for which the Railroad is seeking review by this Court, is whether a railroad worker who was injured while repairing railroad equipment which is used for braking railroad hopper cars, and who does not perform traditional longshoring activities, is a "maritime employee" under the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, 33 U.S.C. Sec. 901, et seg. ("LHWCA"). If the railroad worker is covered by the LHWCA, this Act is his exclusive remedy for the injury. If he is not a "maritime employee" he is

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entitled to relief under the Federal Employer's Liability Act, 45 U.S.C. Sec. 51 et seg. ("FELA"). The Virginia Supreme Court, relying upon its decision in Schwalb v. Chesapeake & Ohio Rv. Co., 235 Va. 27, 365 S.E.2d 742 (1988), and by implication its decision in White v. Norfolk & Western Ry. Co., 217 Va. 823, 232 S.E.2d 852, cert. denied, 434 U.S. 860 (1977), functionally concluded that the plaintiff, Robert Goode, was not performing a traditional longshoring task and thus, was not an employee under the LHWCA. The Railroad argues that these decisions of the Virginia Supreme Court are contrary to recent judicial interpretations of the 1972 Amendments to the LHWCA. The decisions of the Virginia Supreme Court are consistent with the

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dictates of this Court and the LHWCA, and review is not necessary.

A. The decision of the Virginia Supreme Court follows the opinions of this Court and the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

The LHWCA provides compensation for the death or disability of any person engaged in "maritime employment," if the disability or death results from an injury incurred upon the navigable waters of the United States or any adjoining pier or other area customarily used by an employer loading, unloading, in repairing, or building a vessel. See 33 U.S.C. Sections 902-903. A worker claiming coverage under the LHWCA must satisfy both a "status" and a "situs" test. 1 See Herb's Welding, Inc. v. Gray,

The 1972 Amendments to the LHWCA enumerated this two-pronged test. Section 903(a) of the Act sets forth the "situs"

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470 U.S. 414, 415 (1985); P. C. Pfeiffer Co. v. Ford, 444 U.S. 69, 74-75 (1979).

Railroad workers, such as Robert

test where a longshoreman's claim must occur. It states:

Except as otherwise provided in this section, compensation shall be payable under this Act in respect of disability or death of an employee, but only if the disability or death results from an injury occurring upon the navigable waters of the United States (including any adjoining pier, wharf, dry dock, terminal, building way, marine railway, or other adjoining area customarily used by an employer in loading, unloading, repairing, dismantling, or building a vessel).

33 U.S.C. Sec. 903(a).

Section 902 of the Act defines the "status" test, that is, the status an employee must occupy before the LHWCA applies. It states:

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Goode, have historically asserted claims under the FELA and have not been covered under the LHWCA. It is only in cases where a railroad employee has clearly been over the water or on a pier or a near by attachment, and was working with equipment directly involved in the actual movement of goods to ships, that the railroad worker has been removed from FELA coverage and placed under the LHWCA. See, e.g., Price v. Norfolk & Western Rv. Co., 618 F.2d 1059 (4th Cir. 1980). The decision of the Virginia Supreme Court that Goode was not covered by the LHWCA is consistent with the rulings of this Court.

In Herb's Welding Co. v. Gray, supra, this Court was presented with the question of whether a welder working on a fixed offshore oil-drilling platform was

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covered by the LHWCA. The Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit had held that Gray's work as a welder had "a realistically significant relationship to traditional maritime activity involving navigation and commerce on navigable waters" and therefore extended coverage of the LHWCA to him. 470 U.S. at 418-19. This Court concluded that the Fifth Circuit had taken too expansive a reading of maritime employment which was the equivalent of ruling that anyone performing any task that is part and parcel of maritime commerce is in maritime employment for LHWCA purposes. 470 U.S. at 421. Concluding that Gray was not covered by the LHWCA, this Court stated the following concerning the 1972 Amendments to the LHWCA:

The expansion of the definition of navigable waters to include rather

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large shoreside areas necessitated an affirmative description of the particular employees working in those areas who would be covered. This was the function of the maritime employment requirement. But Congress did not seek to cover all those who breathe salt air. Its purpose was to cover those workers on the situs who are involved in the essential elements of loading and unloading; it is "clear that persons who are on the situs but not engaged in the overall process of loading or unloading vessels are not covered." Northeast Marine Terminal Co. v. Caputo, 432 U.S. at 267. While "maritime employment" is not limited to the occupations specifically mentioned in Sec. 2(3), neither can it be read to eliminate any requirement of a connection with the loading or construction of ships. As we have said, the "maritime employment" requirement is "an occupational test that focuses on loading and unloading." P. C. Pfiffer Co. v. Ford, 444 U.S. 69, 80 (1979). The Amendments were not meant "to cover employees who are not engaged in loading, unloading, repairing, or building a vessel, just because they were injured in an area adjoining navigable waters used for such activity." HR. Rep. NO. 92-1441, p. 11 (1972); S. Rep. NO. 92-1125, p. 13 (1972). We have never read "maritime employment" to

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extend so far beyond those actually involved in moving cargo between ship and land transportation [footnotes omitted].

470 U.S. at 423-24.

Terminal Co. v. Caputo, 432 U.S. 249 (1977), this Court extended LHWCA coverage to a checker and a terminal laborer who were performing traditional longshoring functions in connection with the movement of cargo from a ship to land transportation. In discussing the status test, this Court stated:

[The intent is] to cover those workers involved in the essential elements of unloading a vessel-taking cargo out of the hold, moving it away from the ship's side, and carrying it immediately to a storage or holding area...

[P]ersons who are on the situs but are not engaged in the overall process of loading and unloading vessels are not covered. Thus, employees such as truck drivers, whose responsibility on the waterfront is to pick up or deliver cargo unloaded from or destined for

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maritime transportation are not covered.

249 U.S. at 266-67 See also Northeast Marine, 249 U.S. at 266 n.27.

The <u>Caputo</u> decision makes it clear that unless the activities of an employee are closely related to the actual loading or unloading of a vessel, the employee is not covered by the LHWCA, and an employee involved in land transportation is not covered by the LHWCA.

performed by the employee was again emphasized by this Court in P.C. Pfeiffer Co. v. Ford, 444 U.S. 69 (1979), when it extended LHWCA coverage to a warehouseman who was injured while fastening military equipment to railroad flat cars and to a cotton header who was injured while unloading a bale of cotton from a dray wagon into a pier warehouse. This Court

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249 U.S. at 266-67 Jun size Morthagni

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"engaged in the types of duties that longshoremen perform in transferring goods between ship and land transportation." 444 U.S. at 81. Performing traditional longshoring work is critical to coverage under the LHWCA. In addition, this Court reemphasized that employees involved in land transportation are not covered by the LHWCA. 444 U.S. at 83.

The present situation falls squarely within the direction provided in Herb's Welding, Caputo, and Pfeiffer. Robert Goode was injured while performing maintenance on machinery which was used solely for braking railroad cars as they moved into the terminal. Until the unloading process had been completed, the coal was still in land transportation and

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was not in the process of being loaded aboard a ship. The maintenance work performed by Goode was work traditionally performed by railroad workers and not by longshoremen. The Railroad wishes to ignore this distinction and apply the LHWCA to Goode. This would be the equivalent of not only extending LHWCA coverage to truck drivers who are bringing goods to a terminal for eventual shipment, but also to the mechanic who repairs the truck which breaks down while on the terminal.

The decision of the Virginia Supreme Court in this matter is entirely consistent with the decision of the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Conti v. Norfolk & Western Ry. Co., 566 F.2d 890 (4th Cir. 1977). In Conti, the Fourth Circuit determined that the LHWCA

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should not be extended to two brakemen and a conductor-brakeman who are employed by the Railroad at the Lamberts Point Terminal. Each of the employees had been injured while moving railroad cars through the unloading process. In concluding that the workers were not covered by the LHWCA the Fourth Circuit stated:

It is clear that in the cases before us the occupation of the plaintiffs were not of traditionally maritime nature, but on the contrary were those traditionally associated with railroading. Their tasks responsibilities with respect to the unloading of the coal from the hopper cars would have been the same at an inland terminal as they were at Lamberts Point, and the sophisticated automation of the facilities at the latter terminal should not obscure the basic fact that the plaintiffs were engaged in unloading a coal train, not loading a vessel. We find nothing in the Amendments or the legislative history [to the LHWCA] to indicate that under the circumstances the Congress intended to transfer the

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 redress of such injured railroad workers from the FELA to the Longshoremen's Act.

566 F.2d at 895.

This decision of the Fourth Circuit is directly applicable to Goode and is in complete conformity with the decisions of the Supreme Court of Virginia and this Court. The only difference between the Fourth Circuit decision in Conti and the present case, is that Goode was a railroad maintenance employee who was repairing the equipment used to brake the railroad cars prior to unloading rather than a brakeman actually participating in the unloading process and using that equipment.

The Railroad argues in its Petition that "workers who maintain or repair equipment essential to loading vessels are maritime employees for LHWCA

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purposes." See Petition at 23-27. Goode, however, was not repairing ship loading equipment; he was performing maintenance on railroad equipment which is used to brake railroad cars as they come onto the terminal. Such equipment is traditionally associated with railroading and is not unique to ship terminals. Conti, 566 F.2d at 895.

Supreme Court is consistent with the decision of the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Price v. Norfolk & Western Ry. Co., 618 F.2d 1059 (4th Cir. 1980). In Price, the Fourth Circuit found that a worker who was injured while performing routine maintenance on the "gallery" at the Railroad's grain elevator complex at Sevells Point was a maritime employee. The grain is loaded

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onto ships by a conveyor belt system housed in a structure called the gallery. The gallery belt system was used only for loading and unloading vessels. 618 F.2d at 1060-61. The Court concluded that the worker was involved in the maintenance and repair of longshoring machinery which was essential to the movement of cargo. 618 F.2d at 1061. In other words, the worker was performing traditional longshoring tasks in connection with the loading or unloading of cargo. Citing Conti, the Fourth Circuit in Price implicitly recognized that if the worker had been injured while repairing railroad equipment and not loading equipment, the LHWCA would not apply. 618 F.2d at 1062.

This Court has recognized that there must be a boundary to coverage under the LHWCA. See Herb's Welding, 470

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U.S. at 426-27. Nacirema Operating Co. v. Johnson, 396 U.S. 212, 223-24 (1969). In Herb's Welding, Caputo, and Pfeiffer, this court established that line. If a worker is performing traditional longshoring work and is involved in moving cargo between ship and land transportation, the worker will fall within LHWCA coverage. Conversely, if a worker is not performing traditional longshoring work or is not involved in moving cargo between ship and land transportation, the worker is not covered by the LHWCA. The line established in these cases has not been violated by the Supreme Court of Virginia in not extending LHWCA coverage to Goode. Goode, a railroad employee, was performing maintenance to equipment which is unique to railroad operations and

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found throughout the railroad system. The work Goode was performing is not traditional longshoring work but is traditional railroad work. Also, the equipment Goode was working on is used to brake railroad cars as they come onto the terminal; it is not ship loading equipment. Goode was not involved in ship loading activities or in moving cargo between ship and lara transportation, but in traditional railroad activities, and therefore, is covered by FELA as opposed to LHWCA. The only factor which brings up the issue of LHWCA coverage is that Goode was performing maintenance to the railroad equipment at the Lambert's Point Terminal. LHWCA coverage is not even an issue for the same class of railroad employee performing the same work at

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another Norfolk and Western facility. This single factor is not sufficient to take Goode out of the FELA scheme and place him under LHNCA. Robert Goode is not a maritime employee under the LHNCA and the decision of the Virginia Supreme Court to this affect is consistent with the decisions of this Court and the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

B. Railroad workers are adequately protected by FELA.

As a railroad worker, Goode has an adequate means of redress for his injuries under FELA. The FELA has been the equivalent of a compensation statute since 1908. It has consistently been viewed as remedial in nature. Hospinar v. Northern Pac. Ry. Co., 61 F. Supp. 819 (D.C. Mont. 1945). It has worked well, and has not been under attack for

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inadequacy by either the workers protected by the statute or the railroads. Even though FELA is a "jury trial" system rather than a "no-fault" compensation system, workers are receiving adequate compensation for onduty injuries. When LHWCA was amended in 1972, the focus was on workers who passed into and out of the LHWCA system and into inadequate state systems, and not on the alternative FELA system. As such, there is no policy reason to extend LHWCA beyond the limits already established so as to include railroad workers like Goode.

CONCLUSION

For the above stated reasons, the Respondent, Robert T. Goode, Jr., prays that the Petition for a Writ of

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POR THE Above stated reasons, the seasons, the seasons of the prevent to day of the seasons of the seasons to day of the seasons of the seaso

Certiorari of the Petitioner, Norfolk and Western Railway Company be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT T. GOODE, JR.

Of Counse

Richard J. Tavss
Bruce A. Wilcox
Ray W. King
TAVSS, FLETCHER & EARLEY, P.C.
Suite 100, Royster Building
Post Office Box 3747
Norfolk, Virginia 23514
(804) 625-1214

Correlogant of the febiliary, Macfolk and

Respectably substitud,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have served three (3) copies of this Brief in Opposition to Writ of Certiorari upon the Petitioner, Norfolk & Western Railway Co., at the office of its counsel of record, Edward L. Oast, Jr., Williams, Worrell, Kelly and Greer, P.C., 600 Crestar Bank Building, Norfolk, Virginia 23510, pursuant to the requirements of Rules 28 and 33 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of the United States, by depositing same in a United States mail box, with first class postage prepaid, addressed to Petitioner as set forth above, on or before August 1971, 1988.

I further certify that I am a member of this Court, and that all

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parties required to be served have been served on or before August 19TH,

Richard J. Taves

Of Counsel for Respondent

Deposition upon oral examination of ROBERT T. GOODE, JR., taken on behalf of the Defendant, before Joy J. Gossett, a Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia, taken pursuant to Notice, commencing at 11 a.m., on the 27th day of June, 1986 at the office of Williams, Worrell, Kelly & Greer, 600 United Virginia Bank Building, Norfolk, Virginia; and this in accordance with the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, 1950, as amended.

....

(Whereupon, the witness was sworn.)

ROBERT T. GOODE, JR., called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

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EXAMINATION:

BY MR. RICHARDSON:

Q Mr. Goode, my name is John Richardson, and I represent the railroad in this matter.

If there are any questions you don't understand, tell me, and I will try to make them

*** well on hard to S. S. S.

- Q Okay. That's after three months in '72. Was that nothing to do with the employment at the railroad? You were just looking for a better job; is that it?
 - A That's correct.
- Q How long were you a police officer?
- A Six years and ten months.
 - Q Just patrolman or --
 - A Yes.

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- Q And why did you leave the police department?
 - A To come back to the railroad.
- Q Any particular reason or just tired of being a police officer?
 - A Tired of being a police officer.
 - Q When did you come back to work?
 - A January 19th, 1979.
- Q Okay. Did you go back to B & B department?
 - A No.
- Q Tell me what you wee employed as that time.
- department.
- Q And have you been in the motive power department from then on?
 - A Yes.
 - Q To the present day?

- A Yes, sir.
- Q Tell me a little bit about the motive power department. What is i's job primarily?
- A What is my job?
- Q Let's talk about the department first.
- A Basically to run the east end of the railroad.
- Q Okay. Is there equipment that the motive power department is particularly responsible for?
- A Yes, sir.
- Q Tell me about that equipment they are responsible for.
- A The thaw sheds, the pushers, the barneys, the dumpers, the conveyer belts.
- Q It is fair to say they are responsible for everything on the railroad east of the thaw sheds?

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- A Including the thaw shed.
- Q Is that where their line sort of stops and comes towards the dumpers?

A No, not really, because we work on equipment at Portlock.

- Q What kind of equipment do you work on at Portlock?
- A Forklifts, railroad engines.
- Q Do you do that at Lambert's Point also?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q Okay. If you had to say what motive power mainly dealt with on a day-to-day basis, would you say the equipment in the coal loading system from the thaw shed to east?

A No, we work on all of the equipment.

Q Okay. And -- but I am talking about -- do you understand my question?

- 12mm or

I am saying, does the motive power department primarily work on the equipment in the coal loading process from the thawing shed to east? Is that your primary responsibility?

A No.

Q Do you spend as much time working on the forklifts as you do the coal loading equipment?

A Yes, sir.

Q Okay. You spend more time working on that stuff like railroad engines and forklifts as you do on the coal loading equipment?

A I would say more time spent on the forklifts and thaw sheds.

Q Okay. More time spent on forklifts than thaw sheds?

A No, and thaw sheds.

Q Okay. And barneys and pushers?

What I am getting at is, Mr.

Goode, do you spend more time working on
thaw sheds and that kind of stuff than you
do forklifts and that kind of stuff?

MR. WILSON: Excuse me. John, if I could interject this. I am not certain it's clear what you are understanding -- what you are asking. If you defined what you consider to be unloading equipment --

MR. RICHARDSON: I thought I had.
BY MR. RICHARDSON:

Q Assume --

MR. WILSON: We might not accept your definition, but --

MR. RICHARDSON: I understand that.

BY MR. RICHARDSON:

Q I will lump everything that goes into the coal dumping and loading process

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from the thaw sheds east, railroad east as coal equipment. Is that okay? Can you accept that? I am not asking you to agree, but for the purposes of my question, assume that.

Now, percentage-wise, if you can to this, tell me how much time the motive power department spends on the coal equipment as opposed to things like forklifts, railroad engines, and that kind of thing.

MR. WILSON: Before you answer it, I want to object to the form of the question. There has been no foundation laid to show that the coal unloading facilities start at the thaw shed. I think it would be -- we are assuming that for the purposes of the question.

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MR. RICHARDSON: Right. I understand that. I am not saying my definition is definitive.

I am trying to get an idea of how much time the motive power department spends on equipment such as the thaw shed, the barneys, the pushers, the dumpers, and what I would classify as coal loading or dumping equipment. Okay.

BY MR. RICHARDSON:

- Q Can you answer that question?
- A I am not sure.
- Q Okay. Who would know that?
- A I don't know that either.
- Q Who is your supervisor?
- A My immediate supervisor is Bobby Jones.
 - Q And who is his boss?
- A Chain of command would be Arnold Meadows.

more annual transfer and the property and the same THE PARTY NAMED IN COLUMN

- Q Head of B & B or motive power?
- A No, assistant general foreman.
- Q Okay. Let's keep going. Who is

next?

- A Dillard Bates or D. T. Bates.
- Q What is his title?
- A General foreman.
- Q All right. Anybody higher?
- A Bobby Edwards is assistant master mechanic.
 - Q Mr. Crowder then?
 - A Yes.

MR. WILSON: Is that Herb Crowder we are talking about?

MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

BY MR. RICHARDSON:

Q He is the master mechanic, right, Mr. Goode?

A Yes.

A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH

- Q He is sort of in charge of the motive power department?
- A Yes, sir.
- Q Okay. Now, since you came back to work with the motive power department in January of 1979, what has been your job? What was your initial job in January of 1979?
 - A Line tender and helper.
- Q What does that do? What do they do?
- A Basically help the electricians and machinists.
 - Q Do what?
 - A Perform repair work.
- Q On this kind of equipment we have been talking about earlier?
 - A On anything.
 - Q What else did you do?

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- A Tied up ships on the pier.
- Q Okay. Whenever a ship would come in or leave, y'all would tie and untie the ships?
 - A That's correct.
- Q How long were you a line tender and helper?
 - A Three months.
 - Q Then what did you become?
 - A Machinist apprentice.
- Q And that essentially means you work on all equipment that you were describing earlier? Is that what the machinist does?
- A Yes, sir, works on cars, trucks, forklifts, railroad cars.
- Q And how long were you apprentice?
 - A It's a four-year apprenticeship.
- Q Have you moved up to a machinist yet?

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A Yes, sir.

Q When did that occur?

A I am not sure of the date.

Q All right. How long, a couple of years ago?

A Yes, sir.

Q And you are a machinist today?

A Yes, sir.

Q And I take it a machinist does the same thing a machinist apprentice does essentially?

A Yes.

Q Work on cars, trucks, forklifts, things like that?

A Yes, sir.

Q All right, just clarify something for me, Mr. Goode. Do you actually go to the car shop and work on cars, rail cars?

A I don't go to the car shop and work on cars.

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Q Where do you work on rail cars?

A At the scale office, in the thaw shed, and in the barney pit, and sometimes the dumper.

Q When cars get stuck there or something, is that when you work on them?

A Yes, sir. And if something is wrong with the car, we work on it before it goes into the dumper.

Q When you work on a car, it's on the track between the thaw shed and the -- whatever the yard is where they go after being dumped?

A Sometimes they are not on the track.

Q What do you mean "sometimes"?

A Sometimes they are derailed, and we have to put them back on the track.

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Q Okay. It's generally out of necessity to keep the coal process running, is that fair to say?

A I guess so.

Q Okay. What I am getting at is, you just don't inspect cars, and you don't -- if you see something wrong that needs to be fixed, you don't stop the coal loading process to work on cars?

A It would depend on the severity of what needed to be fixed.

Q Okay. Is that something that happens on a regular basis?

A No.

Q Okay. So what do you do most of the time?

A Perform repair work on the equipment for the railroad.

Q Okay. All right, Mr. Goode, tell us what happened on the day you got hurt.

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- A Where do you want me to begin?
- Q Let's start with when did you come on that day?
 - A At 7 a.m.
- Q Is that your typical shift, 7 to 3?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q And when you came on, who do you go to for direction on what to do that particular day?
- A Report at the lunchroom at the motive power building.
- Q Where is the motive power building?
 - A Lambert's Point.
- Q I am not being cute. I am trying to get questions that are relevant to this case. If you don't like the questions I ask, that is something you discuss with your counsel.

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I expect courtesy, and I am not giving you trouble, and I expect the same in return.

MR. WILSON: I might interject.

I don't think he is doing that. He is

trying to be responsive but --

MR. RICHARDSON: I don't think I am harassing him.

MR. WILSON: No, and I don't think he is intentionally doing anything to you. I am sorry you took it like that.

Bob has been instructed the answer the questions as you ask them, and if you ask him which end, he will get to it. He is not doing that intentionally.

You shouldn't take it that way,
John. You are too sensitive.

BY MR. RICHARDSON:

Q Do you understand my question, Mr. Goode?

The Party Valley Control of Committee of the Commit The state of the s A Yes, sir.

Q All right. Where with respect to the Elizabeth River is the motive power building? Is it down there near the piers or up near the claim department and superintendent's office?

A Approximately 150 yards east of the Elizabeth River.

Q Okay. Near the piers?

A Near them.

Q Okay. You report there. Who tells you what to do, if anybody?

A Bobby Jones.

Q Okay. What did he tell you to do on the day you were hurt?

A To go the south dumper and check and repair the retarders.

Q Okay.

A Retarders are what stops the coal cars.

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- Q They act like a cushion or something when they unload it?
- A Braking system.
- Q Is it after they have been unloaded or while they are being unloaded or prior to being dumped?
 - A Prior.
- Q Okay. They are on the dumpers themselves?
 - A Yes, sir.
- Q Tell me a little bit about how the retarders play a role in the dumping process.
- MR. WILSON: Before you answer that, I object to the form of the question. You are assuming they are involved in the dumping process.

MR. RICHARDSON: Sure. I understand.

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MR. WILSON: Go ahead and answer it, Bob.

BY MR. RICHARDSON:

Q Can you tell me when coal cars come to the dumper, what does the retarder do?

out to look at retarders for maintenance problems? Is this typical of --

A Yes, sir.

Q And how often do you have to replace the sword and pins?

A I don't know. Somethings you have to replace them, and sometimes you don't.

Q Can you go years without replacing them? Is this something you do every month or every six months or --

A You check them more often, and I am not sure the length of time they last.

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Q Okay. You weren't surprised to see they needed to be replaced?

A No, sir.

Q Okay. Once you saw that, what did you decide to do?

A Contacted Bobby Jones and told him what the situation was, and he said to replace them.

Q Okay. And is this a big job?

A Yes, sir.

Q Does it require shutting down the dumpers?

A Yes, sir.

Q Okay. Was the dumper shut down during this time?

A Yes, sir.

Q There wasn't any coal being loaded?

A No, sir.

. Not prot a sing at box . yado . p. ALL AND AND A The Dept. Q That is when y'all do the maintenance on the dumpers is when it's down like that?

A Yes, sir.

Q Okay. What does the -- tell me a little bit about how you go about replacing these things.

A You have to have an acetylene and oxygen torch, and you take the pins, which are actually bolts, out of the linkage, and you heat up the keeper strap that is over top of one of the pins, that is a pin, not a bolt. You bend it out of the way, and you take the pin out, and usually or supposedly that is all that has to be done. You take the pin out and take the sword out.

On this particular day the bushing that the pin goes through was broke, and I had to take the acetylene and oxygen torch and push the bushing block off. Then

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catch and paint the counting block off. Their

I had to go back to the shop and get a new bushing block and new pin and come back to the dumper to replace it.

Q Okay. How much time did it take place? It is getting close to noon?

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF NORFOLK

ROBERT T. GOODE, JR.,

Plaintiff.

v.

AT LAW NO. L86-355

NORFOLK AND WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY,. /s/ JWW

EXHIBIT D3 Tudge

Defendant.

AFFIDAVIT

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA . to-wit: CITY OF

THIS DAY, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia, personally appeared RONEL LEE CROFT, who, after being duly sworn, made oath that the following statements describe the duties and conditions of employment for a machinist holding seniority on Norfolk Terminal, Norfolk and Western Railway Company, Norfolk, Virginia.

A Norfolk Terminal railway machinist may be assigned duties at any

geographical point on the Terminal. As an example, machinists work at Portlock Yard (approximately 6 miles from Lamberts Point Yard).

- 2. All machinists on Norfolk Terminal work from a common seniority list and may change jobs at will, based on their seniority standing on this last.
- 3. Machinists perform jobs on Norfolk Terminal ranging from the repair and maintenance of pier machinery; to the repair and maintenance of railroad locomotives; to the repair of railroad cars; to the repair of hydraulic braking systems; to the repair of bridge raising mechanisms.
- 4. Norfolk Terminal machinists perform these duties at various geographic locations ranging from the Elizabeth River Piers, the 38th Street car shops and the locomotive round house, all at Lamberts

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Point Yard; to Portlock Yard (approximately 5 miles from Lamberts Point Yard); to Bridge #7 (approximately 7 miles from Lamberts Point Yard); to Crewe, Virginia (approximately 125 miles from Lamberts Point yard).

- Power Department at the Pier end of Lamberts
 Point Yard have job assignments of working
 on Pier machinery, both over the water and
 in the shop; also, work assignments involved
 with railroad cars and railroad equipment,
 prior to the unloading of the cars.
 Examples of some of these assignments:
 - a. the repair of railroad cars;

b. the rerailing of derailed railroad cars;

c. the repair and maintenance of pushers (small electric locomotives);

d. the repair and maintenance of the Barney;

e. the repair and maintenance of retarders; and

f. the release of handbrakes on railroad cars.

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- 6. Retarders, such as those in use on the south side dumper at Lamberts Point Yard, are in use throughout the Norfolk and Western Railroad system and are common to all railroads.
- 7. The purpose and function of such retarders is to stop railroad cars.
- 8. The function of the retarders on the south side dumper is to stop railroad cars prior to the cars being unloaded.
- 9. The conveyor belt system used to load coal on ships begins after the unloading of railroad cars at the southside dumper.
- 10. After a car is unloaded it continues its cycle back to the coal mines to be loaded again, by continuing up a raised track, and is then returned by gravity to an empty car yard.

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- 11. Different crafts of employees work beside the track on which the south side retarder is located. As an example, railroad brakemen work beside this track, and they are geographically closer to the water and piers than is a machinist working on a retarder.
- 12. Machinists working on the pier end of the yard are worked side by side, over land, with railway maintenance of way employees:
 - a. rerailing derailed railroad cars;
 b. breaking up frozen coal from railroad cars.
- 13. As a railroad machinst I am required to pay money to the Federal Retirement Board.
- 14. As a railroad machinist I am eligible for retirement under the Federal Railroad Retirement system.

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- 15. As a railroad machinist I am eligible, to receive Railroad Retirement Board unemployment benefits when furloughed or dismissed from this job.
- 16. As a railroad machinist I am eligible to receive Railroad Retirement Board sickness benefits when I miss time from work due to illness or a disabling injury at home.
- 17. My work contract is negotiated under the Federal Railway Labor Act.
- appeals rights of discipline imposed by the Norfolk and Western Railroad, are rights under the Federal Railway Labor Act.
- 19. The railroad cars repairs by the machinists are used in interstate commerce.
- 20. The safety standards for railroad cars stopped by the retarders on the south

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decidence are used to distributed for the edition of the statement of the statement of the statement of the statement of the south

side, Pier 6, are set by Federal regulations, the Safety Appliance Act.

Terminal, with the exception of work on machinery that handles coal after the coal cars are unloaded, is in no way even remotely related to the loading or unloading of ships, nor is this work on piers, nor is this work over water. This work deals with machinery used in the repair of coal cars, the repair of locomotives, vehicles, bridges and track machinery such as retarders.

/s/ Ronel Lee Croft

Sworn and subscribed to before me, in the City of Norfolk, State of Virginia, this 11th day of September, 1986.

/s/ Martha Early

My commission expires: 10-10-88

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF NORFOLK

ROBERT T. GOODE, JR.,

Plaintiff.

AT LAW NO. L86-355

NORFOLK AND WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY,. /s/ JWW

EXHIBIT D4 Judge

Defendant.

AFFIDAVIT

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA , to-wit: CITY OF

THIS DAY, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia, personally appeared Raymond D. Wethington, who, after being duly sworn, made oath that the following statements describe the duties and conditions employment for a machinist holding seniority on Norfolk Terminal, Norfolk and Western Railway Company, Norfolk, Virginia.

Norfolk Terminal railway 1. machinist may be assigned duties at any

geographical point on the Terminal. As an example, machinists work at Portlock Yard (approximately 6 miles from Lamberts Point Yard).

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 prior to the unloading of the cars.
 Examples of some of these assignments:
 - a. the repair of railroad cars;
 - the rerailing of derailed railroad cars;
 - c. the repair and maintenance of pushers (small electric locomotives);
 - d. the repair and maintenance of the Barney;
 - e. the repair and maintenance of retarders; and
 - the release of handbrakes on railroad cars.

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- 6. Retarders, such as those in use on the south side dumper at Lamberts Point Yard, are in use throughout the Norfolk and Western Railroad system and are common to all railroads.
- 7. The purpose and function of such retarders is to stop railroad cars.
- 8. The function of the retarders on the south side dumper is to stop railroad cars prior to the cars being unloaded.
- 9. The conveyor belt system used to load coal on ships begins after the unloading of railroad cars at the southside dumper.
- 10. After a car is unloaded it continues its cycle back to the coal mines to be loaded again, by continuing up a raised track, and is then returned by gravity to an empty car yard.

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- 11. Different crafts of employees work beside the track on which the south side retarder is located. As an example, railroad brakemen work beside this track, and they are geographically closer to the water and piers than is a machinist working on a retarder.
- 12. Machinists working on the pier end of the yard are worked side by side, over land, with railway maintenance of way employees:
 - a. rerailing derailed railroad cars;
 - b. breaking up frozen coal from railroad cars.
- 13. As a railroad machinst I am required to pay money to the Federal Retirement Board.
- 14. As a railroad machinist I am eligible for retirement under the Federal Railroad Retirement system.

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- 15. As a railroad machinist I am eligible to receive Railroad Retirement Board unemployment benefits when furloughed or dismissed from this job.
- 16. As a railroad machinist I am eligible to receive Railroad Retirement Board sickness benefits when I miss time from work due to illness or a disabling injury at home.
- 17. My work contract is negotiated under the Federal Railway Labor Act.
- 18. My rights to hearings, and appeals rights of discipline imposed by the Norfolk and Western Railroad, are rights under the Federal Railway Labor Act.
- 19. The railroad cars repairs by the machinists are used in interstate commerce.
- 20. The safety standards for railroad cars stopped by the retarders on the south

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side, Pier 6, are set by Federal regulations, the Safety Appliance Act.

Terminal, with the exception of work on machinery that handles coal after the coal cars are unloaded, is in no way even remotely related to the loading or unloading of ships, nor is this work on piers, nor is this work over water. This work deals with machinery used in the repair of coal cars, the repair of locomotives, vehicles, bridges and track machinery such as retarders.

In addition to the above, I attest that as Local Chairman (Labor Representative) representing machinists on Norfolk Terminal, the following:

A. I progress discipline appeals to my General Chairman through the Federal Railway Act.

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- B. All benefits such an unemployment and sickness benefits are payable through the Federal Railway Retirement Board.
- C. All machinists on Norfolk Terminal that I represent are treated as railway employees, except when one is injured at the east end of lamberts Point Yard (the River End).
- D. All machinists, in all parts of the Terminal, work under work rules set by the Railroad for all railroad employees. Also, they all work under safety rules set by the Railroad for all railroad employees on all parts of the Railroad system.

/s/ Raymond D. Wethington

Sworn and subscribed to before me, in the City of Norfolk, State of Virginia, this 3rd day of September, 1986.

/s/ Martha Early

My commission expires: 10-10-88

HERBERT R. CROWDER, called as a witness by and on behalf of the Defendant, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. WILSON:

THE COURT: Well, they ride it only for the purpose of hitching a ride? Why would they do that?

THE WITNESS: When a car that has been put on the dumper that's misclassed -- there are hundreds of classes of coal -- and they have to get it off, or we have a mechanical breakdown that we can't dump that car and have to get rid of it so we can repair it at the facility. So I can't say that it never happens, but it's so remote that I can't

remember the last time it was done.
BY MR. WILSON:

- Q. But you do agree that a trainman is customarily working in an area closer to the water than this retarder that you were speaking about; is that correct?
- A. He's assigned to work closer to the water than the retarders, yes.
 - Q. What is his job?
 - A. That trainman?
 - Q. Yes, sir.
- A. he ensures that the cars got off the dumper and he classifies cars as they come off the dumper. A for instance, if you may, is we classify cars coming off the dumper between 100-ton and a 70-ton car and different railroad's ownership.

BY MR. WILSON:

- Q. What does BC stand for?
- A. From B belt to C belt.
- Q. It's a belt change house; is that what it is?
- A. Yes, sir. You don't change belts, so that we are talking the same terms. It's where the coal transfers from one belt to another belt.
- Q. Okay. If you will, why don't you draw a circle now where the dumper operation is where the coal is dumped from the car at the retarders.
 - A. (The witness complied.)
- Q. All right. And what are these lines that run between these two red circles?
- A. That's your B belt. B and 1 belt.

THE COURT: Underground, aren't they?

THE WITNESS: Partially underground and partially above.

BY MR. WILSON:

- Q. If you will, why don't you draw an arrow between those two circles for us.
 - A. (The witness complied.)
- Q. Now show me where the coal goes when it changes from one belt at the BC house onto another belt.
 - A. (The witness complied.)
- Q. And what is its final destination there?

DILLARD BATES, called as a witness by and on behalf of the defendant, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

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CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. WILSON:

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- Q. Allright, sir. Don't they work on a device called a pusher, which has been described as a small electric locomotive, prior to the unloading of the cars?
- A. Yes. The pusher at the barne; piers, yes.
- Q. Don't they work on the repair and maintenance of the barney which is a device used to push the cars up the incline before the dumper?
 - A. Yes, they do.

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- Q. Don't the trainmen activate the barney, railroad trainmen?
- A. No, sir. The railroad trainmen gives our dumper operators a signal that it is ready to pull and he actually pushes the button to pull the barney.
- Q. So they participate in the process of signalling which causes the barney to be started?
- A. Right. They have a green light down there. When he takes the retarders off a green light comes on. Then the barney comes.
- Q. So machinists do work in and about railroad cars with the movement of railroad cars both before and after they are dumped?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. We have discussed a place called the BC house.

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- A. Yes.
- Q. And I understand that there are belts that run from the south side dumper to this BC house?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Does that belt have a designation?
 - A. The BC house?
- Q. No. The belt itself. It is like B belt?
 - A. Yes. B and B1 belt, yes.
- Q. So B belt goes from the south side dumper to the BC house?
 - A. Under normal operations, yes.
- Q. And then the coal is dumped on another belt that goes from the BC house to the ships; is that correct?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. What is the designation of that belt from the ships to the BC house?

- A. From the ship to the BC house?
 Under normal operation, B belt would dump
 onto C belt. C belt would go down the pier,
 up through the loader.
- Q. And that is when they put the coal in the ships, right?
- A. No, sir. It then dumps onto D belt.
- Q. So there is another belt involved?
- A. Which is a belt going across out to your apron. It belts onto E belt.
- Q. Is there a shoot at the back of the BC house where you can place coal?
- A. There's a shoot at the back of the BC house?
 - Q. At the back of the BC house.
- A. Yes. There is a cleanup place back there where the cleanup belts dump off and also a place back there where if you

the Charles of the World or of Principle of the Company of ods have a problem with your belt, if we ever do reverse it, it could dump it out on the ground, yes, sir.

- Q. So you could actually take the coal after it's left B belt and going onto C belt and you can reverse C belt and dump coal back out through the BC house; is that correct?
- A. That is not done except in special emergency cases. It cannot be just normally reversed.
 - Q. My questions is can you do that.
 - A. It could on special conditions.
 - Q. Has it ever been done?
- A. I have done it when I have come over a beit with a rip.
- Q. Couldn't you take that coal you dumped over the shoot and loan it in the railroad cars?

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- A. Yes.
- Q. As a matter of fact, there's a track that runs right down beside the BC house?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And there are railroad cars sitting back there most of the time, isn't there?
 - A. Right.
- Q. And they've got coal in them, don't they?
 - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. And that coal is coal that came out of the railroad cars up on the dumper, isn't it.
- A. It's cleaned up coal, yes. It came from all over the piers.
- Q. And retarders are used to stop cars, aren't they?

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- A. Yes.
- Q. And they are used all over the railroad system to stop cars, aren't they?

A. Yes.

MR. WILSON: That's all the questions I have, Your Honor. Thank you.
